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ABSTRACT

This guide for the instructional development team provides an understanding of the educational value of using questions in instructional training materials. It also shows examples and illustrations for incorporating questions into instructional materials (print and video) produced by the Shipyard Training Modernization Program. Background information on using questions is provided. Information on question types follows. A chart depicts the interrelationship between type of question and level of mental processing required of the trainee. Bloom's taxonomy as adapted for questions is described. Examples of how questions can be inserted effectively within instructor guides are provided. They serve as a guide to the curriculum developer in developing a conceptual framework for integrating questions into instructor guides. The use of questions in instructional videotape is then addressed. Three script models illustrate several methods of script application for incorporating questions into instructional videotape. They serve as models to the script writer in developing a conceptual framework for integrating questions into the script. Examples of questions in video scripts are provided. Appendixes include a review of the research on placement of questions and a bibliography. (YLB)

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QUESTIONS IN INSTRUCTIONAL
MATERIALS

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QUESTIONS IN INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

TEXT AND VIDEOTAPE

Purpose

The purposes of this guide are (1) to provide an understanding of the educational value of using questions in instructional training materials and (2) to show examples and illustrations for incorporating questions into instructional materials (print and video) produced by the Shipyard Training Modernization Program.

Questions have been proven to be of significant value when used to guide or stimulate student thinking in the classroom. The training materials produced by the Modernization Program should reflect thoughtful consideration towards designing instruction that will enhance learner motivation and retention of information. Questions, used properly and with discretion, will help us, as instructional designers, to produce the best possible training materials.

Who Should Use This Guide?

All Shipyard Training Modernization Personnel should appreciate the value of using questions in instructional development. At the operational level, however, all curriculum and training materials developers must be knowledgeable on the use of questions. During the development of print materials (instructor guides, student guides), the Subject Matter Experts (SMEs), Industrial Instructional Technologists (IITs), and Shop Instructors should consider the use of questions to generate student interest and participation where appropriate. If the course requires a videotape presentation, the Script Writer should include questions that will parallel the written material whenever possible. Introductory and review questions are particularly effective in videotape training applications. The Television Production Specialist plays a key role in the ultimate effect of any questions included in the script. He must carefully plan shots, pacing, continuity, etc., to accommodate questions and make them most effective.

The combined efforts of the SME, IIT, Script Writer, and Television Producer will ensure that the training materials we produce will incorporate questions that are both meaningful and effective. This guide will provide each member of the instructional development team with a definition of each question type, and includes detailed examples of questions as they might be used in our written lesson material and video production scripts.

Background

Questions have long been recognized as being effective when used for review purposes in the classroom. Additionally, they have been shown to be a powerful influence in student recall and retention when used before and during instruction. A large body of research supports the use of the question as a valuable instructional tool in guiding and directing trainee attention to learning objectives through helping him organize and better understand subject matter content. The following research statements clarify this point:

- a. Questions posed before instruction can improve learner retention and enhance recall. Readers selectively engage in mental processing of text information identified as relevant to questions. (Reynolds, Standiford and Anderson, 1979)
- b. Questions posed during instructional delivery have long been recognized as being an effective learning aid. The deeper the level of student information processing (through questions), the more meaningful the learning and resistant to forgetting. (Hall, 1983)

While these research findings clearly support the use of questions in print materials, similar conclusions have been reached during research conducted about questions as used in instructional video:

- c. Liberal use of titles, questions, and other printed words can improve teaching effectiveness. (May and Lumsdaine, 1958)
- d. When a student participates frequently by responding actively to some stimulus (questions), learning of the materials will be increased. (Allen, 1973)
- e. Inserted printed questions cause the learner to pay close attention, to look or listen for relevant or crucial clues, to have a "set" or put forth effort to learn, and to respond or practice. (May, 1965)

As can be seen, we should derive optimal instructional use of questions when used at the beginning and during the progression of the instructional materials (print and video), as well as for review at the end. See the Appendix for further discussion on questions.

What are the Question Types?

Questions used in either video or print material are important to generating a high level of quality to our training packages. It is equally important to ensure that the type and level of questions developed are also of high quality for the instructional purposes in mind. Questions must not be developed indiscriminately, simply for their own sake. On the other hand, when questions are developed, the type and level of mental processing must be considered for each application. The chart below depicts the interrelationship between type of question and level of mental processing required of the trainee.

**QUESTIONS IN INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:
TEXT AND VIDEO**

<u>Difficulty</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Type of Question</u>
Simple	Knowledge	Detail
	Knowledge Comprehension	Main Idea
	Comprehension Application	Sequence of Events or Steps
	Application	Cause and Effect
	Synthesis	Anticipating Outcomes
Complex	Evaluation	Making Evaluations

As can be seen from the chart, there are different types of questions that can be developed by the IIT and the Script Writer. The type of question employed should approximately correspond to the level of difficulty required in the objective, i.e., do we want the learner to know simple knowledges, facts, and details or do we want him to focus upon increasingly complex understandings involving applications, analyses, and evaluations? As appropriate, the proper type of question will be chosen to stimulate and guide learning.

Questions can be classified according to the level of knowledge required for the correct response. Benjamin Bloom, an educational researcher, developed a taxonomy of educational objectives that can also be applied to questions. Each level is progressively more complex and each is built on all levels below it.

Beginning with the lowest level, Bloom's taxonomy as adapted for questions is as follows:

1. **Knowledge.** The knowledge level asks, "What does the text say?" and requires only recall or recognition from memory for a response; for example:

- o What is the formula for computing board feet?
- o What is the definition of viscosity?
- o What are the main parts of a business letter?

In general, questions requiring a simple "yes" or "no" answer should be used sparingly. Simple recall questions can be used in introducing a lesson, or as the first question in a series of questions that progress to a higher level of difficulty.

2. **Comprehension.** The comprehension level asks, "What does the text mean by what it says?" and can include translation (transferring from one set of symbols to another), interpretation (explaining the meaning of something), and extrapolation (inferring, projecting, or extending from known information into an area not known or experienced, or extending the meaning of major ideas beyond the limits of the information presented). For example:

- o Explain the directions for mixing concrete given in the bulletin. (translation)

- o What does the table show would be the curing time for concrete poured at 60°F? (interpretation)
- c Use your knowledge about concrete work to predict the relative time required to pour the slab illustrated. (extrapolation)

3. **Application.** The application level requires the solving of practical problems through selection and use of ideas, principles, and theories (i.e., using what has been learned in specific situations). For example:

- o Apply the principles of induction and magnetism to explain how a generator works.
- o Use your knowledge of the basic colors to explain how secondary colors can be made.

4. **Analysis.** The analysis level requires breaking a whole down into its component parts and determining the relationship between the parts; for example:

- o Which of the statements in the article on silverbrazing are inconsistent?
- o What is causing the car we have tested for malfunctions not to start?
- o What relationships exist among the different alloys used to make stainless steel?

5. **Synthesis.** The synthesis level requires putting together parts and elements to form a new whole or pattern (i.e., using concepts, principles, and/or ideas already learned to make a new product). For example:

- o What type of piping system should be installed in the new refrigeration system?
- o What procedure should be used for welding the new high-strength alloy?

6. **Evaluation.** The evaluation level requires making judgements based on specific criteria rather than opinions; for example:

- o How would you evaluate the proposed piping system, using total plant energy consumption as the criterion?
- o Does the new welding procedure meet our requirements, based on current specifications?

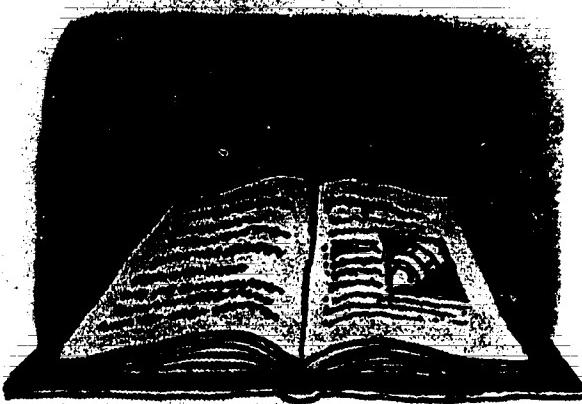
- o Given the following criteria, how would you judge and rank each of the ten displays?

Questions at the analysis, synthesis, and evaluation levels can be used very effectively to summarize class activities or video presentations. Questions at these levels also may be used to guide student thinking in study assignments or at the beginning of a video presentation.

The levels of questions provide guidance in developing a logical sequence of questions. Because each level is based on all levels below it, you can plan the sequence by moving from lower-level to higher-level questions. For example, the application level is based on the knowledge and comprehension levels. Thus, the question sequence would start with the knowledge level, followed by comprehension level, and then application level.

The following pages show examples of how questions can be inserted effectively within Instructor Guides. They serve as a guide to the Curriculum Developer (IIT, SME) in developing a conceptual framework for integrating questions into Instructor Guides.

EXAMPLES OF QUESTIONS IN INSTRUCTOR GUIDES



Modernization Program training materials are based upon an established format. The lesson outline contained in our Instructor Guides should include questions placed intermittently in the outline presentation. As mentioned earlier in the Background, questions may be inserted within this Instructor Guide before, during, or after sections in your Presentation.

The examples that follow illustrate typical applications in instructor guides that have been produced to date in the program.

Excerpts from instructor guides

OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION	INSTRUCTOR/STUDENT ACTIVITY
<p>II. PRESENTATION</p> <p>A. Definitions</p> <p>1. Dead-ended cable - cable that is disconnected at one or both ends.</p> <p>2. End sealing - process of covering the cable end to insulate the conductors to prevent moisture from entering cable.</p>	<p>ASK QUESTIONS ① and ② HERE</p> <p>1. Show Transparency 3, DEAD-ENDED CABLE.</p> <p>2. Show Transparency 4, END SEALED CABLE. Emphasize end sealing eliminates chances of personal injury.</p>

Questions

Questions one and two might be asked before the lesson presentation to guide student thinking.

Question three might be asked afterwards to check student comprehension.

1. What is a dead-ended cable? (knowledge)
2. Why is end sealing performed. (comprehension)
3. What type of injury does end sealing prevent? (comprehension)

OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION**II. PRESENTATION (3 hours)**

- A. Organization of Blueprints.** Depending on their purpose, blueprints and drawings vary in size, format and content. They usually contain these blocks:

1. The title block

- a. Located in the lower right-hand corner of the blueprint.

b. Contents

- (1) Drawing number
- (2) Drawing title
- (3) Name of the organization preparing the drawing or blueprint
- (4) Scale
- (5) Sheet number for multiple sheet drawings.

INSTRUCTOR/STUDENT ACTIVITY

- A. Display full size blueprint throughout lesson as a reference. Refer students to Fold-Out 1-A in Student Guide.

1. Show Transparency 1-1. Point out each item in the title block as it is described.

- (1) Point out Revision letter within the drawing number.

ASK QUESTION (1) HERE

- (4) Instructor will point out the fact that the scale is selected to fit the object being drawn and space available. Therefore, measurements should never be taken on a drawing - use the written dimensions. Note that scale on print 1-A is "as noted". This means more than one scale is used.

ASK QUESTION (2) HERE

ASK QUESTIONS (3) and (4) HERE

Questions

Questions one and two are used as instructional tools during the lesson presentation.

Questions three and four are used afterwards to check student knowledge after the presentation.

1. What might the Revision letter indicate? (comprehension)
2. Why should measurements never be taken directly from a drawing? (comprehension)
3. What information is included in the title block? (knowledge)
4. Where is the title block located? (knowledge)

OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION	INSTRUCTOR/STUDENT ACTIVITY
<p>b. Box end wrench - closed on both ends. This wrench is less likely than other wrenches to slip off the work.</p> <p>c. Combination wrench - has the advantages of both the box and open end wrenches.</p> <p>E. Adjustable (or crescent) Wrench</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shaped somewhat like the open end wrench but has a movable jaw that can be set to fit odd-sized nuts. <p>F. How to Use a Solid Wrench</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Select the proper size wrench. Wrenches are marked by sizes according to the size nut they fit. 2. Make certain the wrench is in good condition. 3. Wipe off your hands and the wrench, removing any oil or grease that could cause the wrench to slip. 4. Place the wrench squarely on the nut. Don't tilt the jaws. 5. Pull on the wrench; don't push. If pushing is unavoidable, use the open palm of the hand. Tighten the bolt or nut until it is snug. 	<p>c. Explain that the combination wrench has one open end and one closed end. One end might be offset for clearance over nearby parts and machinery.</p> <p>ASK QUESTION ① HERE</p> <p>E. Refer students to Figure 4, Information Sheet 2, in student guide and discuss purpose of the adjustable wrench. Display and circulate adjustable wrench to students.</p> <p>ASK QUESTION ② HERE</p> <p>1. Refer students to Figure 5, Information Sheet 2, in student guide. Explain that size designations of open end and box wrenches refer to the distance across the flats of the nut.</p> <p>5. Refer students to Figure 6, Information Sheet 2, in student guide.</p> <p>ASK QUESTION ③ HERE</p>

Questions

Again, questions one and two are used as instructional tools to assess trainee understandings during the lesson.

Question three is used after the presentation to generate a higher level of student thinking.

1. What type of wrench should be selected for applying high torque to a nut or bolt? (application)
2. What part of an adjustable wrench is movable? (knowledge)
3. What might occur as a result of pushing rather than pulling on a solid wrench? (synthesis)

OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION	INSTRUCTOR/STUDENT ACTIVITY
<p>D Installing Stuffing Tubes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use cable assignment chart to determine correct tube size for a given cable. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Chart contained in Electric Plant Installation Standard Methods, S8300-AW-EDC-010/EPISM b. Also printed for convenience in Electrical Information Handbook c. Stuffing tubes manufactured in 24 sizes designated by letters "A" through "Z," plus "AA" and "BB". <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Size "A" is smallest. (2) Size "BB" is largest. (3) The letters "H," "I," "O," and "Q" are not used in order to avoid confusion. 2. Use the hole spacing chart to determine the correct hole size to be drilled for a given cable. 3. Use the hole spacing chart to determine the correct spacing of stuffing tube holes. 4. Lay out position of installation holes. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Consider existing tubes' locations. b. Consider natural, smooth flow pathway for cable. c. Observe spacing requirements cited in hole spacing chart. d. Mark location of hole centers with punch. 	<p>1. Refer students to Information Sheets 3 and 4 in Student Guide and discuss purpose of cable assignment charts.</p> <p>Explain use of references by selecting examples and follow through with students.</p> <p>c. Display Transparency 4, excerpt of EPISM 3BS, columns 1-5. Display Transparency 5.</p> <p>2. Display Transparencies 5 and 6.</p> <p>Refer to Information Sheets 3 and 5 in Student Guide and explain use of these charts for hole sizes as well as for hole spacing.</p> <p>3. Display Transparencies 6 and 7.</p> <p>Refer to Information Sheets 6, 7 and 8 in Student Guide and explain use of these charts.</p> <p>4. Discuss layout of new installation. Refer to Figure 4, Information Sheet 8, in Student Guide. Display Transparency 8, example layout.</p> <p>ASK QUESTION ① HERE</p> <p>Discuss adding tubes to existing installation. Refer to Figure 5, Information Sheet 9, in Student Guide and display Transparency 9.</p> <p>ASK QUESTION ② HERE</p>

2-4

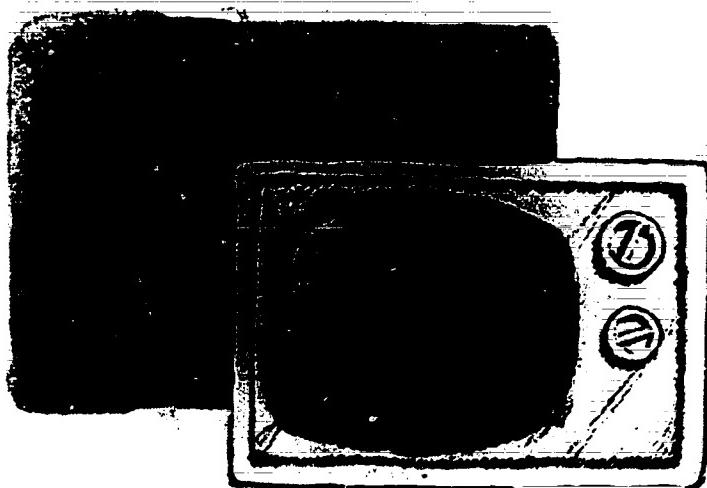
Questions

Question one requires the student to analyze a working procedure.

Question two checks student knowledge.

1. Why should cable follow a natural, smooth flow pathway? (analysis)
2. What procedure should be followed when laying out the position of installation holes? (knowledge)

Videotape Applications



As mentioned earlier in this guide, questions have also been proven to be effective when used in instructional videotape. The purposes (review, guide and direct thinking, etc.) are the same ones that apply to print applications; question types and objectives are also similar to those used in print materials. The author, however, is the Script Writer, and it is important that he understand the principles and techniques that are unique to video presentations.

Videotape allows the learner to see and hear questions simultaneously. This possibility adds a new dimension to the selection and placement of questions within the video script. Students should be given the opportunity to read and hear the question, and then pause, think, and mentally answer the question before the videotape continues. The question-pause-answer method is one method in which questions used for review purposes at the end of a videotape are presented aurally and in print on the screen, followed by a three-second pause and then the narrated and visual answer. This method is one of several that can be used during script development.

The three script models that follow illustrate several methods of script application for incorporating questions into instructional videotape. They serve as models to the Script Writer in developing a conceptual framework for integrating questions into the script.

Methods for Script Applications

Model A

Questions used at the beginning of this script would serve to stimulate and direct student thinking.

Questions used at the end would be used for review/test purposes and could be constructed using the question-pause-answer method.

Mode1 B

Here, questions are used during the video presentation, and they serve to stimulate, direct and test the learner. Again, the question-pause-answer technique could be used.

Mode 1 A

Questions	
Questions/Answers	

Mode1 B

Questions/Answers

Questions/Answers

Model C

In this example, the questions are limited to the end of the video script. They are effective for review/test purposes, and should address highlights/important points in the videotape.

Model C

EXAMPLES OF QUESTIONS IN VIDEO SCRIPTS

Excerpts from video scripts

Diagram deck and overhead clearance

Watertight bulkhead illustration
(maybe from Stuffing Tubes or MCPS)

Drawing of steel tape next to cable bend around a duct or something.

Cartoon, with cables draped over pipe and tied up with plastic tie-wrap (X out).

Questions one and two are used to generate student interest and test their knowledge.

Question three is used to emphasize an important point or achieve a learning objective.

- Correct clearance.

In general, overhead cableways must be at least 6 feet, 6 inches above the deck, for example. All clearances specified in technical manuals or design drawings must be observed.

- Watertight integrity.

The integrity of watertight bulkheads must be maintained, by using approved watertight penetrators for single and multiple cables. If you are uncertain, check the blueprint and see if the "WT" designation for a watertight bulkhead appears.

ASK QUESTION ① and ② HERE

- Good cable estimates.

Measure sections of the run as necessary to make a good estimate of the length required, to make sure you allow enough for the run.

- Standard hardware.

Never use any device not approved by NAVSEA for supporting or securing cables in cableways.

ASK QUESTION ③ HERE

Questions

1. In general, how far above the deck should overhead cableways be? (knowledge)
2. What designation is used on a blueprint to indicate a watertight bulkhead? (knowledge)
3. Who must approve devices used for supporting or securing cables in cableways. (comprehension)

<p>Diagram illustrating the first step of the wire rope cleaning process.</p>	ASK QUESTION ① HERE
<p>Diagram illustrating the second step of the wire rope cleaning process.</p>	<p>Bear in mind that the wire rope passes through the lubrication cannister <u>first</u>, then through the cleaning die.</p>
<p>Diagram illustrating the third step of the wire rope cleaning process.</p>	<p>The reason for this is that the cleaning compound is combined in the lubricant, so it cleans and lubricates in one operation, somewhat like an auto cleaner-wax.</p>
<p>Diagram illustrating the final result of the wire rope cleaning process.</p>	<p>The solvents in the lubricant soften the residue so that it is easily scraped off when the rope passes through the cleaning die.</p>
<p>OVERVIEW of materials: dophouse</p>	ASK QUESTION ② HERE

Questions

Question one is used to generate student interest.

Question two is used to test student knowledge and may assess a learning objective.

1. Why is wire rope drawn through the lubrication cannister first? (comprehension)
2. At what rate is the wire rope pulled through the cleaner-lubricator? (knowledge)

**NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND
EASTERN AND WESTERN VIDEO PRODUCTION CENTERS
SKILLED TRADES TASKS AND PROCESSES**

SCRIPT

TITLE	STEAM	DATE	28 Sept 1984
SUBJECT	UNIT 1 - LESSON 1.1	PAGE	5 OF 10
5	VIDEO	AUDIO	
			into a liquid by the process of condensation. The amount of heat given off when steam condenses back to a liquid is called the Latent Heat of Condensation.
			The cloud vapor you see coming off a pot of boiling water is steam that has begun to lose heat forming water droplets because of condensation.
			This visible cloud is called saturated steam. It is used aboard ship to operate most of the auxiliary equipment and in various types of heaters.
			However, saturated steam is not suitable for use in main propulsion turbines as the water particles tend to wear out the turbine blades. And, saturated steam conducts and loses heat rapidly. Ship's boilers, therefore, are designed to produce both saturated and superheated steam.
			Superheated steam is dry steam that has had the water particles removed by adding additional heat. Therefore, you can't see superheated steam.
			Because superheated steam causes very

ASK QUESTIONS ①, ② and ③ HERE

Questions

Questions one, two and three are used at the end of this video segment for review purposes and to emphasize important points or objectives of the lesson.

1. **What is the difference between saturated steam and superheated steam? (comprehension)**
2. **Why would superheated steam tend to wear out turbine blades? (application)**
3. **Why is superheated steam especially dangerous? (knowledge)**

Summary

"To question well is to teach well." Socrates would have agreed with this statement. He used questioning to the exclusion of all other methods. Clearly, questioning is an effective way to stimulate student motivation and participation. Questioning provides for involvement of all students. In addition, it focuses student attention and develops interest and curiosity. The effective use of the questioning technique provides students with opportunities to practice self-expression and to have their knowledge used as a class resource. At the same time it allows variety to be added to the lesson.

Questions can be used for specific purposes within the lesson content or video presentation. They can be used to introduce, summarize, or review a lesson; to clarify points previously made; or to bring up points omitted. Other uses include developing new insights, promoting understanding, developing attitudes and values, and teaching students to use ideas rather than simply memorize them.

Questioning can provide important evaluation information. The students' preparation for the lesson can be tested. Questions during the introduction can serve as a pretest of students' knowledge level. Also, using questions during the lesson can provide immediate feedback on how student learning is progressing. Incorporating questions in the lesson summary or review can provide at least a partial evaluation of the extent to which the instructional objectives have been achieved by students.

Everyone who develops instructional materials in the Shipyard Training Modernization Program -- SME, IIT, Script Writer, and Television Producer -- should give careful thought and consideration towards developing and including questions in instructor guides, student guides, and videotapes that reflect the highest standards of instructional technique. This program has the capability and resources to set a training standard for all of industry. The incorporation of questions in both our written and video lesson material will help ensure that this potential is fully realized.

APPENDIX

RESEARCH REVIEW

Harris (1970) emphasizes that questions are useful not only as an indicator of competency in comprehension, but as a basis of strategies for teaching comprehension. While it is generally agreed upon that question placement affects students' comprehension, it is not agreed upon as to where the placement of questions should be. A review of the research reveals that numerous studies have been conducted in this area. Their findings should be a primary consideration for any curriculum developer or instructor interested in developing effective questioning strategies.

Research Showing the Advantages of Prequestioning

The first reported study which dealt with the effect of prequestioning techniques on reading comprehension was conducted in 1921 by Germane. He compared the comprehension levels of students who had been given a set of questions prior to their reading the selection as opposed to those who had been allotted the same amount of time to re-read the selection. Reported mean scores were 14.3 for the experimental group and 13.9 for the control group. This was a one month mean difference in favor of the group that had been exposed to the prequestioning treatment. Germane (1921) also conducted a replication of the above study using 88 college sophomores and obtained identical results. Based on these findings, Germane concluded that it would be more advantageous to present questions to students before reading an article than to allocate the same amount of time having students read the selection.

The findings of Germane prompted similar experiments. In an effort to determine the reliability of the Germane study, Holmes (1931) conducted a study with the same stated purpose. In addition, Holmes was interested in the effect of prequestioning on delayed recall and the interaction of question placement and the nature of the material presented. Results showed that both experimental groups scored higher than did the two control groups. On the basis of these results, Holmes concluded that since reading guided by

prequestions surpasses rereading without questions in both the immediate recall and delayed recall of answers to questions it is beneficial to provide students with questions for guidance in reading material.

Yoakum and Truby (1926) were concerned with the effect on comprehension of prequestions that were general in nature. Reported results indicated that the experimental group which had received the prequestions scored a grade equivalent of seven months higher than did the control group that received no stated purposes.

Distad (1927) conducted a unique study which sought to incorporate several facets of the previously mentioned experimental studies. More specifically, the four treatments were: 1) reading to find answers to eight specific prequestions presented by the experimenter, 2) reading to find answers to eight specific questions raised by the subjects themselves, 3) reading to find the answer to a general problem, and 4) reading with no direction. The following results were obtained. Group I scored 15.0, Group II - 14.3, Group III - 13.0, and Group IV - 11.8. Basing conclusions on these results, Distad stated that directed reading aids in the development of reading habits which increase comprehension.

Washburne (1929) sought to determine the value of placing prequestions in various positions. A conclusion of the study was that question location is an important variable in the mastery of material and that the best placement is the grouping of all questions at the beginning of the selection, while the worst placement in the grouping of all questions at the end of the selection.

Shores (1960) was also interested in the recollection of information which was not specifically asked in prequestioning treatment. Group one was instructed to read the selection and was given no stated purpose. Group two was instructed to read the selection to restate the major events in their proper sequence. Group three was instructed to read the selection in order to find the main idea. Results indicated the group that had been instructed to read the material for the main idea achieved the highest raw score, while the group that had been given no direction achieved the lowest. Shores concluded

that presenting one general question to students prior to their reading the material aided in the recall of factual information. Ballard (1965) sought to determine the effectiveness of different types of prequestions on the comprehension of a story-type reading selection. Group A received prequestions that contained references to specific detail from the selection, Group B received prequestions that were concerned with the main idea, while Group C received no prequestions. Based on the results, Ballard concluded that guiding (Group A) questions resulted in the highest comprehension, while motivating questions (Group B) were more beneficial than no prequestions.

Henderson (1964) was interested in comparing the effect on comprehension of prequestions generated by the student himself as opposed to prequestions generated by the teacher. Group one was asked to provide for itself a collective purpose prior to reading the selection. Group two received a teacher generated purpose for reading the selection; Group three received no stated purpose. Results indicated that the most effective prequestions are those that are generated by the student himself. However, a teacher generated prequestion is more advantageous than the use of no prequestions.

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